

REMARKS

The courtesy of the Examiner during the interview on June 27, 2006, is appreciated. During the interview the Examiner reviewed prior art blood filter samples which are shown in the photographs on the concurrently filed information disclosure statement. The Examiner also reviewed a sample of the blood filter marketed by the assignee and which corresponds to the filter disclosed in this application. There was also a discussion regarding the differences between the invention and Spranger et al, Patterson et al and Geel et al. The Examiner suggested claim amendments to distinguish Spranger et al and Patterson et al. The Examiner's Interview Summary of June 27, 2006, is accurate.

During the interview the examiner suggested certain changes to the claims which are made by this amendment. Further, the claims have been amended to require the stem or end section of the bundle of fibers to be narrower along their entirety than the bundle of fibers inward of the end/stem to further distinguish Geel et al which shows an end section of a fiber bundle that is wider than the bundle.

Steven BERNARD et al..
Appl. No. 10/748,135
June 28, 2006

All claims are in good condition for allowance. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicants' attorney. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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